

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 00163 071417Z

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ACTION DEAE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1235

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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ANKARA FOR BRIGGS

BEIRUT FOR MARIA

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR EG

SUBJECT: DEA TRAINING

REF: STATE 281983 (NOTAL)

1. FOR BEIRUT: REFTEL CONCERNS REQUESTS BY TWO EGYPTIAN NARCOTICS OFFICIALS, WHO RECENTLY ATTENDED SEPARATE TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE U.S., THAT TRAINING PROGRAMS IN DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AND REGULATORY CONTROL TECHNIQUES BE CONDUCTED IN CAIRO.

2. IN GENERAL, POST IS IN FAVOR OF SUCH TRAINING PROGRAMS BEING CONDUCTED IN-COUNTRY AS THIS ALLOWS REALITIES OF THE COUNTRY TO BE OBSERVED FIRST-HAND AND PROGRAMS TO BE MODIFIED ON SPOT TO ACCOMMODATE LOCAL CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS AND PROBLEMS.

WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO PARA 1 REFTEL, LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING, WE AGREE THAT SUCH TRAINING WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL. THE ATTENDANCE OF BUT ONE EGYPTIAN TRAINEE PER PROGRAM IN THE U.S. PER YEAR, AS ALLOWED BY FY-75 AND FY-76 BUDGETS, CAN HAVE ONLY VERY SMALL EFFECT ON OVERALL ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS OF EGYPTIAN
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OFFICIALS. IN-COUNTRY PROGRAMS WOULD HAVE THE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGE

OF MULTIPLYING THE TRAINING EFFECT SEVERAL-FOLD AND WOULD ALLOW
DEA PERSONNEL TO MEET AND CHAT WITH SENIOR EGYPTIAN DRUG ENFORCE-
MENT OFFICIALS.

4. RE PARA 2 REFTTEL, DR. ZACHARIA EL-SHERIF ADVISED EMBOFF IN
DECEMBER THAT HE HAD LOST HIS JOB AS CHIEF OF NARCOTICS CONTROL
SECTION OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH DUE TO PERSONALITY CONFLICT WITH
HIS SUPERVISOR (OF WHICH DEA WAS AWARE FROM PREVIOUS TRAFFIC AND
WHICH PRE-DATED EL-SHERIF'S TRIP TO US, BUT WHICH WAS BROUGHT
TO A HEAD BY THE VISIT). HE STATED HE NOW HAS "ANOTHER JOB"
BUT DID NOT ELABORATE AND TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT EMBOFF DID
NOT PRESS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. WE FEEL THAT THIS TYPE OF
TRAINING, AS OPPOSED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING (WITH EMPHASIS
ON INTERDICTION AND SEIZURE) WOULD BE OF MINIMAL VALUE IN
THE OVERALL GOALS OF USG NARCOTICS GOALS IN EGYPT. ADDITIONALLY,
SINCE DR. EL-SHERIF'S SUPERVISOR WOULD BE THE PERSON TO APPROACH
REGARDING TRAINING IN REGULATORY CONTROL TECHNIQUES, AND GIVEN
ABOVE SITUATION, WE BELIEVE THAT NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO DISCUSS
THE PROGRAM SUGGESTED BY DR. EL-SHERIF AND RECOMMEND TO POSTPONE
ANY SUCH APPROACH.
EILTS

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